
The E-Gobrecht
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Information, input, comments, or suggestions for improvements to this E-Gobrecht are actively solicited from anyone and may be sent to wb8cpy@arrl.net or by writing or calling:

Bill Bugert
Editor, E-Gobrecht
P.O. Box 3761
Gettysburg, PA 17325-6927
(717) 337-0229

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Acknowledgements

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Details

- ==> Report on the 2005 ANA LSCC Meeting by John McCloskey, President, LSCC.

The 32nd Annual Meeting of LSCC

LSCC conducted its 32nd Annual Meeting during the ANA Convention in San Francisco at 9AM on Thursday July 28, 2005. The meeting started with an announcement of the results of the Election of Officers for the 2005-2006 club year. The following club members will serve one-year terms from September 1, 2005 to

August 31, 2006: John McCloskey, President; Larry Briggs, Vice-President; Greg Shishmanian, Secretary-Treasurer. Greg Shishmanian will assume his new position on September 1st and be ready to receive dues payments for the new year by late September 2005. Dues notices will be sent to all club members during the third week of September. Greg replaces Mark Sheldon who is retiring as club Secretary-Treasurer after five years. We all thank Mark for the valuable service that he has given to the club during this time.

Collective Volume Number Five

Significant progress has been made in the preparation of a manuscript for the publication of Collective Volume Number Five. A preliminary document of 643 pages was presented at the meeting containing the articles from Issue #64 that was published in November 1995 to Issue #78 that was published in July 2000. The articles have been ordered by denomination and date in a manuscript, the same structure that was used in the previous collective volumes. However, this document was more difficult to prepare because of the dramatic changes that took place in the way that the issues were published during this period. In 1995, the copy for each of the articles was saved on a computer disk but we did not use digital pictures until 1999. This meant that nearly 300 pictures had to be located in the club picture files, scanned into digital images and then properly placed into the manuscript for the new collective volume. It was a time consuming and delicate process to make sure that these pictures were all of the same size and sharpness as the images in the original issues. In some cases, the computer software even allowed us to improve on the quality of the images that were previously used.

Recovering the copy from the stored disks from almost ten years ago also proved to be a challenge. There have been multiple upgrades in the computer software that was used in 1995 and we had some problems recovering the copy from these early disks. In four cases, we were unable to read the old computer disks so that we had to buy software that restores old computer files. Over time, we learned how to read the old disks and recover the needed copy. However, there were other problems that still needed to be resolved. In some cases, the computer characters used ten years ago did not always produce the same results when read by the current software. We found this to be particularly true in the positioning and spacing of the headings and in the placement of the columns in the tables. A variety of copy errors required us to carefully examine each of the 643 pages in the manuscript and eliminate these errors. Checking for errors in a lengthy manuscript is a time consuming task that is currently being undertaken.

Once the manuscript is in its final form, an introduction and a table of contents will be prepared. A final computer disk will then be used to produce printed copies of the new Collective Volume. Club members will be notified when the new volume is available for purchase and order forms will be sent to all active club members.

Seated Dime Survey

Gerry Fortin has prepared a listing for what he calls the Major 100 Seated Dime varieties. This listing contains a cross section of die variety types that are universally accepted and popular with collectors of all United States coinage. He feels that this listing provides a set objective for the variety collector that will increase his knowledge of the minting process. The listing also includes coins that illustrate the many problems experienced by mint employees while preparing coinage dies. A listing for the Major 100 Seated Dime varieties will be published in the November

issue of the journal. A survey will also be conducted in January 2006 asking club members to report examples of the varieties they own so that refined rarity estimates can be determined for the listing.

E-Gobrecht Newsletter

Club members generally felt that the E-Gobrecht Newsletter can best be utilized as a way for individual club members to provide information on current numismatic events or to ask for information about numismatic topics that relate to their collecting interests. Individuals felt that the newsletter should contain reports on the sale of Seated coins at auction, provide information on the availability of important Seated coins that will soon appear at auction, list the availability of rare dates seen at recent shows and report the appearance of counterfeit coins that could deceive club members. Members felt that the newsletter would be a good way to post interesting Seated coins for sale and provide individuals with an opportunity to post want lists of needed coins. Club members should have the opportunity to ask for needed information relating to their current numismatic research or to report their observations from work that is currently in progress. However, it was also felt that the Gobrecht Journal was the best way to preserve the findings of numismatic research for future generations of Seated collectors. Club members also recommended that another notice be published in the November issue of the journal encouraging club members to sign up for the new electronic newsletter.

==> Wanted!! - Information for the E-Gobrecht. In order for this newsletter to survive, it must have news to publish. With that, I will publish each issue when I have enough to send out. A few supportive members have supplied the bulk of the content of this newsletter and I appeal to others to submit material to publish. Examples of the kind of information that I am looking for and what the members seem to be interested in include announcements of newly discovered varieties, upcoming Liberty Seated coinage auctions and/or results, availability of Liberty Seated coins at coin shows, interesting activities at coin shows, LSCC member happenings, neat finds or cherry picks, upcoming meetings or gatherings of club members, counterfeits seen or found, numismatic experiences or stories, general comments or thoughts on the market, liberty seated coins for sale, want lists, your collecting goals, neat coins from your collection, opinions regarding rarity and Condition Census, collector profiles, interesting eBay listings, questions, and/or comments or other remarks. Most anything will do. Please take a few moments to send me a quick note; others are interested in your opinions and experiences.

==> Email traffic. Here are some emails that the Editor recently received:

Julian Leidman, well-known numismatist and dealer, wanted me to mention the upcoming Jules Reiver collection sale: ...In January 2006, the sale of the Jules Reiver collection by Heritage, in Dallas, will be conducted the week of 1/23. ... You might mention in the journal that the Reiver collection has a nearly complete collection of seated coinage, in various conditions, and has some die varieties and even some die states

M. B. writes: "I don't read my e-mail every day. Today, I am catching up. It looks

like you finally were successful at sending E-Gobrecht as an attachment. I just read it and enjoyed it. Thanks.

W. H. writes: Great issue! I will mention it in this week's E-Sylum, and tell people how to subscribe. I will include a short excerpt or summary of some of the articles, if that is OK. Thanks.

Mike Fey sent this in as a find: FYI, I just acquired an 1854-O arrows Seated Half Dollar in AU with a neat 45-degree clockwise rotation. I could not find mention of another "rotated dies" for this date anywhere else. The date, profile of Ms. Liberty, and stars have the doubling you mention in your book.

R. I. says: I am attempting to build a set of higher-grade Seated Quarters. I have limited myself to three dealers as coins from many other dealers offered as MS60-62, even if slabbed by PCGS or NGC have "friction" at same points as other slabbed coins correctly graded AU55-58 (on dates even available in these grades). I have gotten better at distinguishing among the good and misgraded but avoid toned coins because I am not confident about detecting wear on supposedly uncirculated coins. I've also seen what I think are cleaned and untoned coins in P or N holders but am not confident enough to argue this either. As I am sure you are aware, even at major coins shows, even "common" MS Seated quarters aren't offered so it is difficult to compare coins side by side. Because I cannot devote unlimited time to this but don't wish to be taken advantage of, any advice for me? (*Any suggestions from readers? – Editor*)

A. Z. writes a nice note that is extracted here: Bill, Thank you for your kind invitation, I've really totally submerged myself in the last year in acquiring and learning attributions of Seated Halves. I have about 130 or more halves in three albums (like those Library of Coins albums) about 2/3 are attributed, but some seem to be undescribed in your book (some are described in later LSCC Journals and others may be later die states). I need to get the hang of the stereo microscope. My most valuable Half but not the most interesting is an AU 1871-CC half dollar with stunning tone. ... When the time comes I'd like to write an article from this novice's collector's evolution and migration from dimes to Morgans and Peace Dollars through the bucket accumulation phase to meeting Sheridan Downey in Oakland in 1989 and first becoming conversant (a little bit) with attribution's. Tried for a time to work toward the Bust Nut Half Club (I think I made it to about 58 CBHs (*Capped Bust Halves - Editor*)). Then, a seed was planted by David Lange when at one of the San Francisco Coin Clubs. David Lange gave a fascinating talk about his Seated Half collection right after he had broken it up and what he had gone through to get a loan from his credit Union to buy an 1878-S Half(think I recollect \$8000) . I used to follow around local guy Walter Breen at the shows to pick up tidbits of info. Then I ... lost touch with all coin clubs and have not attended a show since Long Beach in 1991 where my car was stolen along with a good number of coins. However, my inward numismatic pursuits continued. I lost interest in the too common dollars, and the unavailability of CBH better varieties, I strongly suspect old Sheridan Downey with his trusty micro Visor hunted all the Coin Shops in the SF/Oakland Area pretty thoroughly. So little by little, I inexorably came to the unexplored vistas and fascinating varieties of the long era of Seateds. And yes, on a working man's limited budget (it could be done!). With relatively minor stops at the Barber Dime Deli and

the Old Washington Wharf Quarter, I was being drawn into the El elysian Seated Half and Quarter Fields. Gatekeeper Saint Dick Osborn unlocked the portal to allow me entrance and this is where I have been since. I missed the last (Liberty Seated Half Dollar) census but should be ready for the next one. PLEASE Bill and Randy, another new or updated version of your wonderful tome. I am waiting in line for two copies! Best Numismatic Regards

P.S. the 1871-CC would be for sale at the right price so that I could buy more LSCC Halves and Quarter varieties.

D. P. on the *E-Gobrecht* Issue Number 5: Nice job on the latest issue! Regards.

==> For those you interested in American Bust coinage, Bill Luebke is the editor for the John Reich newsletter; I (*the E-Gobrecht Editor*) have received copies and this newsletter is definitely a winner. Here are the details...The JR Newsletter is largely dedicated to the study and the collecting of U.S. Federal silver and gold coins of the 1794-1839 period. It is meant to entertain and inform, to create a forum for debate, to offer exchanges of information and to promote numismatic scholarship. But mostly to be fun.

The JR Newsletter is not affiliated with any numismatic organization. There are no dues or fees of any kind, though subscribers are encouraged to join the John Reich Collectors Society (JRCS), a club dedicated to these wonderful coins. JRCS can be reached at www.jrcs.org.

Subscribers' email addresses will be kept totally private, though if you do want to contact another subscriber I will be happy to forward your email. Subscribers will not be spammed. You may publish your email address if you choose to do so, for example, if you wish to solicit responses to a question. The choice is yours.

At present, the frequency of publication is uncertain. That largely depends on subscribers' input. In order for a newsletter to survive, it must have news to publish. That said, I plan to publish bi-weekly for starters. Please submit material to publish. An interesting find, an unreported die state, your impressions of coin shows and auctions, a good cherry pick, an interesting anecdote, bizarre coins, news from other media, your collecting goals, neat coins from your collection, opinions regarding rarity and Condition Census, collector profiles, interesting (in both the good sense and the bad) eBay listings, questions, comments and snide remarks. Most anything will do.

JR News has 136 subscribers as of August 28, 2005. If you want to subscribe, contact Bill at JRNews@nyc.rr.com.

==> Recent or upcoming Liberty Seated Collections on the market. Please report others for distribution in the E-Gobrecht.

The William A. Harmon collection of U.S. Half Dimes will be offered by Heritage Numismatic Auctions on September 21-24, 2005 at the Long beach Show. Comprised of 400 coins, it comprises his lifelong collecting effort.

The Lemus Collection of U.S. Dimes, 1796-1916, will be offered by Stack's at their 70th Anniversary Sale in October 2005. This collection is a complete date

and major type set of Dimes with most pieces falling in the Mint State range. Stack's has graciously offered to send a copy free of charge to any interested E-Gobrecht subscriber who does not already receive Stack's catalogues. Contact Vicken Yegparian via email at vickeny@stacks.com.

Jules Reiver collection of copper, silver, and gold coinage will be offered by Heritage Numismatic Auctions in January 2006.

Recent Finds

==> Anyone wishing to report their recent finds, including rarities, cherry picks, late die states, "neat coins," etc., are encouraged to share it with others in this column.

Miscellaneous

- In their upcoming September 2005 auction, Stack's will be selling some literature that once belonged to D.W. Valentine, the author of *The United States Half Dimes*, The American Numismatic Society, 1931.
- Hagerstown Coin Show and Liberty Seated Coins. I, the Editor, attended the September 2005 local coin show in Hagerstown, Maryland. A quick initial search of the floor revealed little in the way of unusual Liberty Seated coinage. After a second look, I did find many common date circulated Trade dollars, few circulated Seated dollars, and common date circulated quarters dimes, and half dimes. In the half dollar series, other than the usual common date coins I've seen and passed on many times before, I did take note of a nice AU 1846/horizontal 6, an XF 1866-S No Motto, an XF 1871-CC, and an XF 1873-CC WA. On a sideline, one dealer was giving away many recent copies of auctions catalogs from Stack's, ANR, Heritage, and Bowers and Merena. What a chance to fill some holes.

Calendar

LSCC dues notices will be mailed to members - Third week in September.
Next issue of the Gobrecht Journal – November 2005
Seated Dime survey – January 2006

Information on the Liberty Seated Collectors Club

The LSCC Pledge. To encourage, promote, and dispense numismatic knowledge of the Liberty Seated coins; to cultivate fraternal relations among its members and all those interested in the science of numismatics.

LSCC Officers.

President: John McCloskey.
Vice-President: Larry Briggs.
Secretary/Treasurer: Greg Shismanian.

LSCC Membership Information. Dues are \$15 per year and include three issues of the *Gobrecht Journal*, an award winning numismatic publication. To join the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, for *Gobrecht Journal* mailing address changes, or for other membership questions, correspond with the LSCC Secretary Greg Shismanian. His address will be reported in a future issue. (In the meantime, send me any correspondence and I will get it to him. *Editor.*)

Articles, comments, or advertisements for publication in the *Gobrecht Journal* may be addressed to the LSCC President:

John W. McCloskey

President, LSCC, and Editor, *Gobrecht Journal*

Email address: John.McCloskey@notes.udayton.edu

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